## TOWN OF HERNDON

Enriching the Quality of Life and Promoting a Sense of Community



## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## TOWN OF HERNDON STEPS UP INVESTIGATION OF OVERCROWDING COMPLAINTS

Herndon, VA (April 11, 2006) – During the first three months of 2006, the Town of Herndon closed 67 cases in which complaints regarding excessive occupancy of residences were received and investigated. Violations were abated in just over 50 percent of these cases, with no violations found in the remaining cases.

This first quarter activity continues the steady increase over previous years in the number of cases closed; in all of 2005, the Town closed 250 cases in which complaints regarding excessive occupancy of residences were received and investigated. Violations were abated in 54.8% of these cases, with no violations found in the remaining 45.2 %. In 2004, 147 cases were closed, with violations found and successfully abated in 51% of the cases; in 2003, 96 cases closed yielded a 34.4% abatement rate.

The number of investigations initiated by Town community inspectors is also on the rise. In the first three months of 2006, more than 48 percent of complaints were initiated by Town staff. In all of 2005, 42.9% of all complaints were initiated by Town staff, compared to 38.2 percent in 2004 and 23.5 percent in 2003.

According to Henry Bibber, director of community development for the Town, additional staff resources and improvement in the investigations process account for some of the

increased investigation activity and the number of cases closed. "The Town of Herndon is demonstrating its commitment toward enforcement of occupancy regulations through its increased dedication of resources to inspection and resolution of violations," said Bibber. "We encourage citizens to be an active part of the process by contacting the Town's community development team when violations are suspected."

For more information on excessive occupancy enforcement or to file a complaint, contact the Department of Community Development, Zoning Inspections at 703/707-2666.

The Town of Herndon was incorporated by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 14, 1879. Located in western Fairfax County, Herndon is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest town in the Commonwealth and is home to more than 22,000 citizens. Businesses located within the Town of Herndon, which range from high tech enterprises to entrepreneurially-owned establishments, employ approximately 23,500 people.

For more information, visit the Town's website at www.herndon-va.gov.

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